

2016

Normal Editions Workshop Newsletter, 2016

School of Art

Illinois State University, normaleditionsworkshop@ilstu.edu

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Normal Editions Workshop

Veda Rives, Interim Director

Morgan Price, Assistant Professor of Art

Sarah Smelser, Professor of Art

College of Fine Arts, School of Art

Illinois State University

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Normal, IL 61790-5620

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NEW Team, 2016-2017

(From left to right): Sarah Smelser, Felicia Cannon, Amber Gravett, Dylan Welch, Michael Blake, Morgan Price, Micah Zavacky, Veda Rives, and Molly Markow. (not pictured: Demetri Fisher and Heather Long)

NEW Sponsors Awards

Each year, Normal Editions Workshop sponsors the NEW Scholarship to recognize outstanding artistic ability and performance in printmaking. This competitive award is open to both graduate and undergraduate art students who have an emphasis in printmaking and will be attending Illinois State during the following academic year. BFA student Haley Gray is the 2016-17 recipient of the NEW Printmaking Scholarship.

NEW also sponsors two printmaking awards for the annual student juried show. Micah Zavacky received the NEW Best Graduate Print award for his silk-screen print *Cascading Succulents*. The NEW Best Undergraduate Print Award went to Amber Gravett for her untitled etching. Amber also received the inaugural

Richard D. Finch Undergraduate Drawing and Printmaking Award for her piece entitled *Show Stopper*. Recent BFA alumna Kelsey Just sponsored this award to honor Richard Finch, Professor of Art Emeritus and his 38 outstanding years of teaching drawing and printmaking at ISU.

Additionally, MFA student Felicia Cannon received the 2016 Irving S. Tick Award in Printmaking for a laser-engraved piece *Lamination*. Dylan Welch had an individual show area as the Marshall Dulaney Pitcher award winner and also received the Robert Small award for writing in art history. Congratulations all!

MFA Degree Applications

Applications for a Master of Fine Arts Degree in printmaking for Fall 2017 are being accepted. We anticipate one

graduate assistantship position in printmaking beginning in the Fall of 2017. For more information about printmaking at Illinois State University please contact via email Morgan Price (Lithography) mgprice@ilstu.edu or Sarah Smelser (Intaglio) ssmelse@ilstu.edu. Completed applications should be received by February 1, 2017 for full consideration. Other graduate disciplines in the School of Art include painting, drawing, photography, glass, ceramics, video, and sculpture/expanded media. Other graduate degrees offered in the SOA include MS in Art Education and MA in Visual Culture. Questions may be directed to gradart@ilstu.edu or the School of Art (309-438-5621). Information and applications are available online: <http://finearts.illinois-state.edu/art-masters-fine-arts>



The 32nd Annual PRINTMAKERS' EXHIBITION AND SALE

Illinois State University Center for the Visual Arts

CVA Room 127, Friday, December 9th, 2016 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

See related article inside for more details on this unique opportunity.



NORMAL EDITIONS WORKSHOP

Veda Rives, Interim Director

Morgan Price, Assistant Professor and Sarah Smelser, Professor of Art

SCHOOL OF ART COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY

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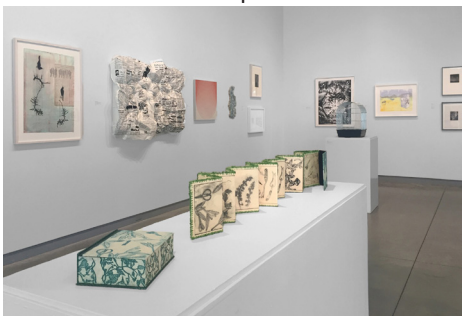
FALL 2016

NUMBER 25

Normal Editions Workshop (NEW) is a non-profit, professional, collaborative print research and publishing workshop within the School of Art (SOA) at Illinois State University (ISU). Welcome to our annual review of the year's events.

40th Anniversary

NEW turned 40 this year! To celebrate, we flooded the Bloomington-Normal community with work from around the world in a series of exhibitions and events. A generous award from the Harold K. Sage Fund brought renowned printmaking scholar Susan Tallman as the guest juror for *Beyond the Norm: International Juried Print Exhibition* held at University Galleries. Tallman also gave a wonderful lecture on the history of printmaking and its continued relevance in the contemporary art world and conducted critiques with the MFA print students. Special thanks to University Galleries, Takach Press, Hiromi Paper Inc. and Renaissance Graphic Arts Inc. for providing generous awards. Across town, McLean County Arts Center (MCAC) hosted two exhibitions. Curator Claire Heddon selected 40 prints highlighting NEW's accomplishments for *40 Years NEW: Four Decades of Prints from Normal Editions Workshop* held in their Brandt Gallery. Jim Butler, Richard Finch, Veda Rives, Lisa Lofgren, and Morgan Price offered wisdom and perspective from the past, present, and future during a panel talk with Sarah Smelser as moderator held as a part of 40 Years NEW exhibition. *Behind Every Print: Normal Editions Workshop Faculty and Staff* exhibition held in the Armstrong Gallery included works by Todd DeVriese, Steve Britko, and addition to those pictured above.



Beyond the Norm at University Galleries



Behind Every Print there's a team and a story: NEW Team members celebrate NEW's 40 years.

Harold Boyd, Sarah Smelser, Richard Finch, Meda Rives, Morgan Price, Veda Rives and Jim Butler.

BFA alumna Jan Brandt hosted a lively alumni show, *Kindred: ISU Printmaking Alumni Exhibition* at the Jan Brandt Gallery featuring outstanding works from 40 former students. Finally, the Printmaking MFA students curated *Force of Nature: ISU Printmaking Students Exhibition* of current student print work in ISU's Transpace Gallery. Keep an eye out for our catalog documenting the numerous events and beautiful work. Many thanks to those who joined the celebration. We look forward to many more decades of collaborative printmaking!

Recent Publications

Completed editions in 2016 include works by Laura Splan, Phyllis Bramson, and Stephanie Liner. Splan and Liner were participants in the School of Art's Visiting Artist Seminar program. Splan's print *Squint* continued her exploration of cultural ambivalence toward the human body. Splan ran an EEG reading of the electrical activity produced while squinting through a program she developed to

turn the information into the complex relationship of color combinations and line weights that you see in the print. From these files, the NEW team created four color photo-litho plates to achieve the exciting play of color. In the end, the image blends the contemporary



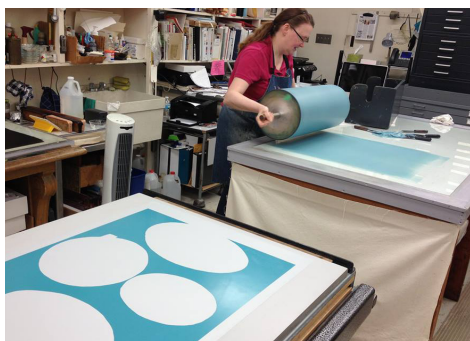
Grad students Felicia Cannon, Micah Zavacky, Dylan Welch, and Molly Markow at the opening of *Force of Nature*



Brandt Gallery during the opening of *40 Years New* at MCAC



Kindred alumni show at Jan Brandt Gallery



Veda Rives gets out the big guns for Phyllis Bramson's *Three Little Maids...*

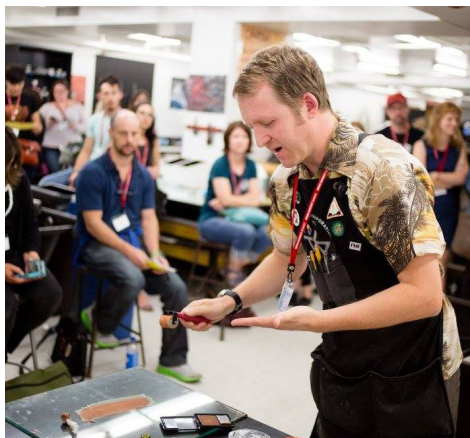
possibilities of digital media with the richness of a woven tapestry. Felicia Cannon, Morgan Price, Sarah Smelser, Veda Rives, Amanda Smith, Dylan Welch, and Micah Zavacky helped to complete this project that is ready for purchase.

Stephanie Liner's sculptural work combines an exquisite sense of craftsmanship with an interest in the ways social expectations play out in female identity. She received her MFA from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and has shown her work, given lectures, and been interviewed extensively. Her untitled print incorporates a piece of fabric she uses for her sculptural and upholstered work. It is curated, chopped, and out for signature by the artist.

NEW concluded Phyllis Bramson's *Three Little Maids...*, a commission from the Cleve Carney Art Gallery with support of College of DuPage Foundation, Glen Ellyn, Illinois. This print involved 7 colors in 5 runs through the press, several collage elements, and hand-drawn highlights.

New Projects in Progress

Graduate student Micah Zavacky is spearheading a collaboration with ISU painting faculty Melissa Oresky. This project, already underway, will consist of a three-color photo-lithograph that uses



Morgan Price presents non-toxic body transfers in his demonstration to MAPC participants in Louisville, KY



Amanda Smith mixes silver ink with Stephanie Liner for Liner's two-color lithograph

shape and color to investigate "plantness." Oresky is using printmaking as a contrast to her normal studio practice to research how the language of plants changes across media and through abstraction.

We also began a project with ceramic artist Jason Walker, who was on-campus as part of the SOA visiting artist program. Walker has lectured, taught and shown work internationally and collected by the Fine Art Museum of San Francisco: de Young, the Carnegie Museum of Art in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and the Arizona State University Art Museum, Ceramic Research Center, Tempe, Arizona. His work challenges the American definition of nature and the division between the human-made versus non-human made worlds. It is always invigorating to work with artists from across disciplines. Morgan Price is taking the collaborative printer lead on the project. The "Right to Print" impression was signed at the end of November and we are eager to print the edition during the spring semester.

2016 Mid-America Print Council Conference

The biennial printmaking conference, Mid-American Print Council (MAPC) 2016, "Print Matters, Printing Matters," was held in Louisville, KY/New Albany IN in October. ISU's robust presence at MAPC consisted of Professors Sarah Smelser and Morgan

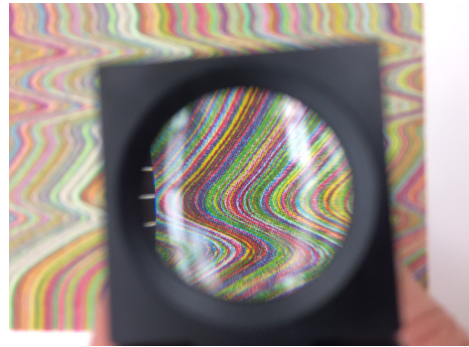


Sarah Marshall, visiting artist for Art 347 Advanced Printmaking class, working in the lithography studio



Graduate student Felicia Cannon talks with MAPC attendees at the Open Portfolio in New Albany, IN

Price, MFA students Felicia Cannon, Molly Markow, Dylan Welch and Micah Zavacky, and undergraduate students Amber Gravett (BS), Whitney Johnson (BFA), and Haley Gray (BFA). Morgan presented a highly successful demonstration *Skin on Stone: Non-Toxic Lithographic Skin Transfers*. Micah organized an exchange portfolio titled *Nexus*, which was on display during the conference and featured lovely work based on the intersections of drawing and printmaking. Morgan and Felicia also participated in this portfolio. Sarah presented as a part of ISU alumni Nick Satinover's panel *What We Talk About When We Talk About Print: Artists filtering literary, musical, and cinematic influence through studio practice*. The 2018 MAPC conference will be held in Laramie, Wyoming. Fund-raising events for the Print Student Travel Fund such as our noteworthy annual Printmakers' Exhibition and Sale, featuring prints of various media, knitwear by Sarah and Morgan, bake sales, and our annual Valentine's Day card sale made the trip and participation possible for all seven students in attendance. Thank you to all everyone who supported these efforts! Also of note: Congratulations to Morgan Price, newly elected president of MAPC.



Magnification gives a closer look at Laura Span's *Squint*. See silent auction opportunity for this work

Printmakers' Exhibition and Sale

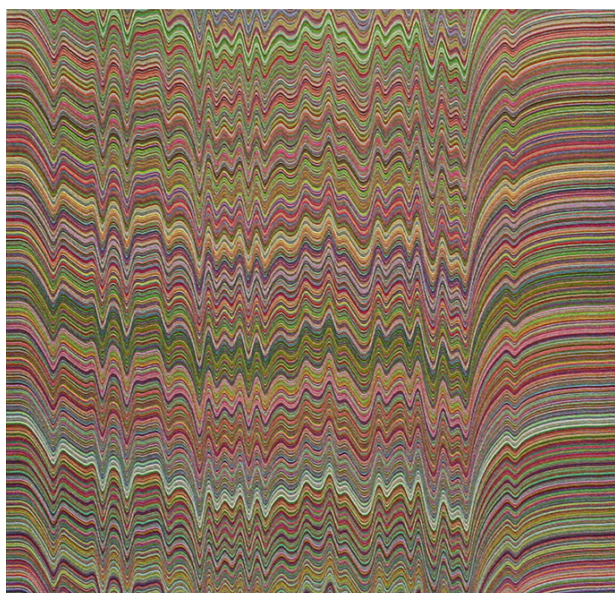
The 32nd Annual Printmakers' Exhibition and Sale will be held on **Friday, December 9th** from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the Lithography Studio, room 127 in the Center for the Visual Arts (CVA) building. Hundreds of prints will be on display during the event. All prints are original artworks by ISU students, faculty, staff, alumni, and visiting artists. A portion of the sale price goes to the participating artist and all proceeds from the event will be used to support the ISU printmaking program. In addition, Normal Editions Workshop will have selected impressions on display. CVA is located on the south side of campus on Beaufort Street. Hourly

parking is available at the south University Street Parking Garage.

Four silent auction items benefit the Printmaking Student Travel Fund to support student participation in national and regional conferences as well as the NEW Scholarship which is awarded annually. ***Squint*** by **Laura Splan** is a 15 1/8" x 15 1/8" four-color lithograph. Starting bid for this framed impression is \$200.00 (retail price is \$400.00, unframed). ***Introspection*** by Morgan Price is a 5" x 7" hand-colored lithograph. Starting bid for this framed impression is \$65.00 (retail price is \$175.00, unframed). ***Wind Waves II*** by Meda Rives and Veda Rives is a 7.5"

x 13" stratagraph. Starting bid for this framed impression is \$100.00 (retail price is \$200.00, unframed). ***Straddle*** by Sarah Smelser is a 20" x 16" monotype. Starting bid for this framed impression is \$400.00 (retail price of \$1,400.00, unframed).

All bids must be received by 4:30 p.m. (Central Standard Time) on Friday, December 9th. Written bids may be submitted anytime before the deadline to: Veda Rives, Campus Box 5620, Illinois State University, Normal, IL 61790-5620. Email bids may be submitted to: nor-maleditionsworkshop@ilstu.edu. Silent Auction winners will be announced at 5:00 PM on December 9th. Participants need not be present to win.



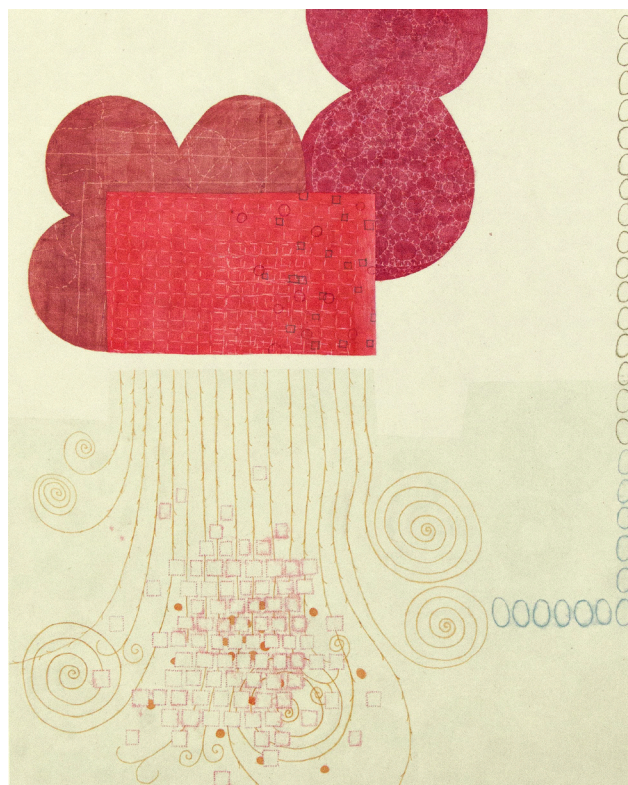
Silent Auction Item:
Squint by Laura Splan
2016, four-color lithograph
15 1/8" x 15 1/8" image, 24" x 24" framed



Silent Auction Item:
Introspection by Morgan Price
2016, hand-colored lithograph
5" x 7" image, 13" x 15" framed



Silent Auction Item:
Wind Waves II by Meda Rives and Veda Rives
2010, stratagraph
7.5" x 13" image, 14" x 20" framed



Silent Auction Item:
Straddle by Sarah Smelser
2014, monotype
20" x 16" image, 28" x 23", framed



Dylan Welch and Veda Rives pull a proof of run three for Maritza Dávila's lithograph, *Milagros*

Fell Trust Award 2016

Thanks to the support of a Fell Trust award, we welcomed Maritza Dávila to campus for a week-long visit in February 2016. Dávila gave a public lecture, participated in critiques with graduate students, and collaborated on a three-color lithograph. In conjunction with the artist's visit, an exhibition of six large prints of her recent work and an exchange portfolio entitled *Jornada* which included prints by twelve Latin artists were exhibited in Gallery 129. During her visit, Dávila brought enthusiasm and generosity to the printmaking area and the University in general. While working in NEW, Dávila gave lectures about her artist books to several beginning printmaking classes while sharing how her Puerto Rican background informs the ways she addresses family and culture in her work. Also, Dávila met with graduate students and Dr. Maura Toro-Morn of the Latin American and Latino/a Studies programs. NEW is thankful for the connections Dávila made between students in the School of Art, departments at Illinois State, and community organizations.

Dávila is a professor of fine arts at Memphis College of Art in Tennessee where she is head of the printmaking/book arts/papermaking area. Dávila earned her BA in art education, printmaking and painting from the University of Puerto Rico and received her MFA in painting and printmaking from the Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, NY. Dávila's collaboration with NEW, a three-color lithograph, references family and cultural heritage as well as the human condition. The impressions await final curating after winter break.



Jean Miller, Dean of the College of Fine Arts; Maritza Dávila, Visiting Artist; Michael Wille, Director of the School of Art; and Morgan Price, Assistant Professor discuss Maritza's works on display in Gallery 129 during her visit to ISU

Fell Trust & Sage Fund Awards 2017

Support from both the Fell Trust and the Harold K. Sage Fund from the ISU Foundation will bring John Himmelfarb to campus as a visiting artist in January. His one-week residency will include a public lecture, collaborative print project, presentations to print classes, and critiques with advanced and graduate students. John Himmelfarb lives and works in Chicago. His works have been exhibited both nationally and internationally. Himmelfarb works in a variety of media including drawing, painting, print, sculpture, and public works. Selected awards include Illinois Arts Council Fellowship, Pollack-Krasner Foundation, and National Endowment for the Arts.

Illinois Arts Council Agency Support

NEW takes this opportunity to express our appreciation to the Illinois Arts Council Agency (IACA) for its generous support. NEW received a \$4,600.00 general operating grant from the Illinois Arts Council for fiscal year 2016, which they extended to November 30th due to the current State of Illinois appropriation difficulties. NEW is very grateful to have received general operating support from the Illinois Arts Council for the past nine years. This funding enhances our ability to provide programs which public interest in the visual arts, supports our mission to make high-quality work with visiting artists, and gives students the opportunity to work in a professional printshop.

Visiting Artist in Printmaking

Thanks to the Printmaking Speaker Fund, Sarah Marshall was a visiting artist for a one-week residency to work with the Advanced Printmaking class on the creation of a variable edition of prints. Marshall gave a public lecture, spoke in introductory printmaking classes, and met individually with advanced and graduate students. Marshall received her MFA from the University of Iowa, is associate professor of art at University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, and has shown her work in solo and group shows around the US.

Open Invitation

NEW has an ongoing commitment to the production of limited edition prints in collaboration with visiting artists—including many who have not worked previously with print media—and the distribution of these images to promote visual dialogue among a variety of audiences. The opportunities for these artists to explore (with Workshop staff) the challenging and creative potentials of printmaking have allowed the artists



Veda Rives and Morgan Price color trial proofing run two for Jason Walker's untitled lithograph

the freedom to concentrate on their visual imagery while learning about the expressive potentials of printmaking. The collaborative process always yields many insights for the artists, the staff involved in the projects, and the observers. Proposals for projects are welcome and reviewed periodically.

Friends of the Arts Grants

Support Print Student Activities

Dylan Welch and Micah Zavacky both received Friends of the Arts grants this year. Dylan's supported her solo exhibition in partial fulfillment of her MFA degree in December, 2016. Micah's will allow the purchase of large copper plates for large-scale drypoints he plans to exhibit in his thesis exhibition in the spring 2017. Friends of the Arts is the official support group for the College of Fine Arts and raises over \$30,000 in scholarship funds each year to support CFA students competitive grant opportunities to College of Fine Arts students of up to \$500 for an individual and up to \$1,000 for a group.

Keep in Touch!

As our network continues to grow, we remain proud of the artistic, professional, and personal accomplishments of our alumni. Please send personal and professional updates to normaleditionsworkshop@ilstu.edu. Thanks to everybody who has liked ISU Printmaking on Facebook!

We continue to keep the site updated with current events, media, and opportunities from the printmaking community, including news from NEW. <https://www.facebook.com/ISUPrintmaking>



Veda Rives, Sarah Smelser, Maritza Dávila, Morgan Price, Felicia Cannon, and Dylan Welch with the signed "Right to Print" impression of *Milagros*



Print workshop directors meeting at Rutgers University

Print Workshop Directors Meet

Normal Editions Workshop Interim Director Veda Rives (MA Printmaking '92) and directors from 8 other institutions attended a meeting of US university printmaking workshop directors hosted by the Brodsky Center at Rutgers University in New Jersey. The event is already being called historic for its spirit of cooperation and sharing of successful strategies and best practices among the country's unique collaborative print research facilities affiliated with institutions of higher learning including Illinois State University, Columbia University, Washington University, University of Norte Dame, University of New Mexico, University of North Texas, University of South Florida, University of Wisconsin at Madison, and Rutgers. Future meetings are in the planning stages.

Endowment Fund for NEW

NEW continues to work towards the long-term endowment goal of \$100,000.00 to secure future funding for NEW. Private donations from several individuals made the initial endowment possible, and the endowment is nearly \$30,000.00. You can add your support to the Normal Editions Workshop Endowed Fund with your gift online by going to <http://www.illinoisstate.edu> and clicking on the "Make a Gift" tab. Be sure to choose the designation "Normal Editions Workshop" for the gift. Then finish your financial information and submit. We certainly appreciate your support!



Dr. Maura Toro-Morn and graduate students from the Latin American and Latino/a Studies program with Maritza Dávila at the exhibition in Gallery 129

Personnel News

NEW welcomes first-year Master of Fine Art in printmaking student Molly Markow to the NEW Team. Molly hails from Colorado, and recently finished her BFA from University of Wyoming in Laramie.

Returning grads Felicia Cannon, Dylan Welch and Micah Zavacky were excited to start the fall semester after eventful summers. Felicia took advantage of the quiet studios to get some work done here on campus. Felicia's schedule is very full as she is a Graduate Assistant (GA) for both a special topic letterpress class with Morgan Price and a 2D fundamentals class with Jim Mai. While she had no official hours working in NEW this fall, she continued to volunteer some time during extended printing sessions and returns to NEW in the spring semester.

Dylan spent an exciting summer gathering inspiration from travels in Paris, Greece, and Istanbul. In Paris, Dylan worked at a small cooperative printshop, Atelier Sfumato, where she got to use a fabulous and ancient lithography press.

Micah returned to his hometown and made prints at the Dayton Printmakers' Cooperative in Dayton, Ohio. In addition to his studio practice, Micah taught two workshops at the Dayton Printmakers' Cooperative: "Stone Lithography" and "Woodcut with Bookbinding".

Dylan, Micah and Molly are assisting in all aspects of NEW from printing to newsletter writing. Additionally, Dylan is the Instructor of Record for a section of Lithography I, Micah is GA for Intaglio I, Molly is GA for another section of Lithography I and Drawing Fundamentals. Undergraduate student Amber Gravett joined the NEW team during the fall semester. Amber has taken Intaglio I, Lithography I and Advanced Printmaking at ISU, so she is well-prepared and excited to contribute during this independent study.

NEW will welcome three new team members in the spring semester, Michael Blake, Heather Long, and Demetri Fisher. Michael is a MA student in Art Education with a strong interest in printmaking. He considers this a valuable opportunity for personal practice and professional experience. Heather recently transferred from Heartland Community College and is taking Graphic Design courses. Demetri Fisher has previously served as director of the Division of Affirmative Action (AA) in Wisconsin. He has also participated in various work and activism over the years related to civil



NEW Panel at MCAC: Sarah Smelser, James D. Butler, Richard Finch, Veda Rives, Lisa Lofgren, and Morgan Price

rights. Demetri is now pursuing interests in visual arts and printmaking at ISU.

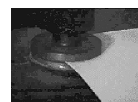
Morgan Price, Assistant Professor in the lithography area, is also 2D Area Coordinator for this year. Morgan continues his service to Mid-America Print Council (MAPC) this time as President for a two-year term, 2016-2018. His summer activities included a month-long residency at the Jentel Artist Residency Program in Wyoming.

Veda Rives continues to lead the charge with patience and grace as Interim Director for NEW. Veda thoroughly enjoyed presenting about NEW at the think-tank organized by the Brodsky Center. Directors from university affiliated collaborative print workshops from around the country gathered for the highly concentrated day of information exchange and problem-solving highlighted earlier on this page. Congratulations to Veda and Roger Aukerman on their summer engagement and fall 2017 wedding plans. In January, Veda will have a solo exhibition in collaboration with Veda Rives at Judson University in Elgin, Illinois.

Sarah Smelser, Professor in the intaglio area, had a productive and satisfying year. Two highlights were a residency at the Kala Art Institute in Berkeley, CA, and taking a workshop at Constellation Studios with renowned woodcut artist Karen Kunc.



This program is partially supported by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council Agency.



Normal Editions Workshop Newsletter

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Photo credits: Felicia Cannon, Owen Davis, Amber Gravett, Christina Jones, Molly Markow, Morgan Price, Veda Rives, Veda Rives, Sarah Smelser, Greg Sullo, Dylan Welch, Micah Zavacky, and University Galleries